

CITY OF MIAMI BEACH
Office of the City Manager
Letter to Commission No. 073-2004



To: Mayor David Dermer and
Members of the City Commission

Date: March 30, 2004

From: Jorge M. Gonzalez
City Manager

A handwritten signature of Jorge M. Gonzalez in black ink.

**Subject: LETTER ATTACHED FROM CONSTANCE A. KAPLAN, SUPERVISOR OF
ELECTIONS, MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

On July 30, 2003 the City Commission passed Resolution No. 2003-25289 calling for a Special Election to be held on November 4, 2003 changing the Run-off election date from one (1) week after the General Election to two (2) weeks after the General Election.

By a vote of 66.4%, the Miami Beach voters approved changing the Run-off election date from one (1) week to two (2) weeks after the General Election.

Attached is a letter from Constance A. Kaplan, Supervisor of Elections, dated March 25, 2004 indicating that it is essential that Elections Department have a minimum of three weeks between the General Election and Run-off Election.

Robert Parcher, City Clerk, has scheduled a meeting with Ms. Kaplan on April 16, 2004 and is in contact with the Clerks' of Miami, Hialeah, and Homestead who are presently on the same election cycle as Miami Beach.

As information becomes available, it will be transmitted via LTC.


JMG\REP:lb

c:

Attachment: Letter dated March 25, 2004 from Ms. Kaplan, Supervisor of Elections.



CONSTANCE A. KAPLAN
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
2700 N.W. 87TH AVENUE
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33172

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WEBSITE: <http://elections.miamidade.gov>

March 25, 2004

Mr. Robert E. Parcher, City Clerk
City of Miami Beach
1700 Convention Center Drive
Miami Beach, Florida 33139

Dear Mr. Parcher,

As you know, in January 2002, Miami-Dade County purchased an Electronic Voting System for use in all county elections. This equipment has proven to be quite voter friendly, although, a complex system to administer.

Last March my office contacted you to advise you of the necessity of scheduling your primary and regular elections two weeks apart. At that time, it was felt that two weeks between elections would provide adequate programming time. This was a premature assumption by the Elections Department. A minimum of three weeks between elections is essential to ensure that absentee ballots are available for mailing, early voting locations (if requested) are established, and the iVotronic equipment is properly programmed, proofed, and tested.

I realize that you may need to amend your charter and I am available to discuss election scheduling and election costs at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Constance'.

Constance A. Kaplan
Supervisor of Elections

CAK/tnm

c: George M. Burgess, County Manager
Alina Hudak, Assistant County Manger
Murray A. Greenberg, First Assistant County Attorney
Susan Torres, Assistant County Attorney
Jeff Ehrlich, Assistant County Attorney